

1. (Amended) A direct material deposition method comprising the steps of:

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- a. providing a powdered material that can be incited by a laser beam;
- b. providing a laser nozzle assembly having multiple laser beams coupled with said powdered material from a set of powder nozzles directed to approximately a same location;
- c. positioning a deposition substrate adjacent to laser deposition head outlets;
- d. heating said powdered material with said laser beams; and
- e. providing relative motion between said laser deposition head outlets and said deposition substrate.
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2. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said heating step fuses said powdered material to said deposition substrate to create a thin layer of material.

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3. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said heating step vaporizes said powdered material, whereby the vaporized powdered material is deposited onto said deposition substrate to create a thin layer of material.

4. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein in said providing relative motion step the relative motion derives from a CAD model.

5. (Amended) The method of Claim 4, additionally comprising the step of employing a single laser beam to outline features defining surfaces of an object under construction.

6. (Amended) The method of Claim 5, additionally comprising the step of employing multiple laser beams to fill featureless regions defining surfaces of said object.

7. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said laser beams are controlled individually, and wherein one or more of the beams are modulated on and off during part of the deposition process to create one or more line deposits simultaneously.

Please add new claims as follows:

--8. The method of Claim 7, wherein said laser beams are controlled individually, and wherein two or more of the beams are modulated on and off during part of the deposition process to create two or more line deposits simultaneously.

9. A direct material deposition method comprising the steps of:

- a. providing a powdered material that can be incited by a laser beam;
- b. providing a laser nozzle assembly having three or more laser beams coupled with said powdered material from a set of powder nozzles directed to approximately a same location;
- c. positioning a deposition substrate adjacent to laser deposition head outlets;
- d. heating said powdered material with said laser beams; and
- e. providing relative motion between said laser deposition head outlets and said deposition substrate.

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein said heating step fuses said powdered material to said deposition substrate to create a thin layer of material.

11. The method of Claim 9, wherein said heating step vaporizes said powdered material, whereby the vaporized powdered material is deposited onto said deposition substrate to create a thin layer of material.

12. The method of Claim 9, wherein in said providing relative motion step the relative motion derives from a CAD model.

13. The method of Claim 12, additionally comprising the step of employing a single laser beam to outline features defining surfaces of an object under construction.

14. The method of Claim 12, additionally comprising the step of employing multiple laser beams to fill featureless regions defining surfaces of said object.

15. The method of Claim 1, wherein said laser beams are controlled individually, and wherein one or more of the beams are modulated on and off during part of the deposition process to create one or more line deposits simultaneously.

16. The method of Claim 15, wherein said laser beams are controlled individually, and wherein two or more of the beams are modulated on and off during part of the deposition process to create two or more line deposits simultaneously.--
